

12-2018

UNI Grad Student News, v17n2, December 2018

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UNI Grad Student News

December 2018 • Volume 17 • Issue 2

Message From The Dean



Greetings from the Graduate College!

It is the end of November. The trees, once boasting golden leaves, are empty. Nature continues to move us to the winter. It is a time where we naturally turn inward and reflect.

As the semester closes, your reflection may focus on the last 16 weeks you spent creating. Creating ideas, discussions, papers, performances, social connections, and other wonderful things. These creations result in accomplishments to celebrate – dissertations and theses successfully defended, productive internship or practicum experiences, completion of difficult assignments, a deeper understanding of a complex theory, and graduation. Take a moment to

acknowledge what you have produced and be proud of yourself. We celebrate with you and appreciate all that you have brought to the UNI graduate community through your creations.

Your reflection may focus on instilling a growth mindset. This is a mindset of possibility, expansion, and continual learning. Take a moment to think about a mistake, an error, or even a failure. What can you learn from these experiences? Perhaps you need to adjust your study strategies, perhaps you need to ask a faculty member for assistance, or perhaps you need to find time for your hobbies away from academics. Reflection on what worked well and what did not work well can help you embrace future challenges and reach higher levels of personal achievement.

Finally, your reflection may focus on preparing for the next step of your journey. For those graduating, the next step may be new employment. This transition may be bittersweet. Your time at UNI is coming to a close; yet, it has provided a strong foundation for future accomplishments. Think of all you have achieved at UNI, through effort, continual seeking of knowledge, and connections with graduate faculty, and transfer these strategies to your future.

As happens every year, winter is upon us. As you watch the snow fall, perhaps drinking hot cocoa, take a moment to pause and reflect. Know that your time at UNI has prepared you for the next step in your journey.

Congratulations to our December 2018 graduates. We are excited to hear of your future accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Jennifer J. Waldron, Ph.D.

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Thinking About Graduate School (TAGS)



The Twelfth Annual Thinking About Graduate School (TAGS) event was held on Monday, September 24, 2018 from 3:15pm to 4:30pm in Maucker Union Ballroom. There were 83 UNI undergraduate students who attended and were eager to learn more about continuing their education. The event was kicked off by a presentation entitled “Thinking About Graduate School” presented by Dr. Jennifer J. Waldron, Associate Vice President for Research & Innovation/Dean of the Graduate College and Dr. Gabriela Olivares, Associate Dean of the Graduate College. The presentation provided an overview of the graduate school application process. Following the presentation was the Graduate Faculty & Graduate Student Panel, traditionally a crowd favorite. Panel members were Dr. Dale Cyphert, Associate Professor, Department of Management & MBA Director, Dr. Cindy Juby, Department Head and Associate Professor, Department of Social Work, Dr. Windee Weiss, Professor, Department of Kinesiology, Sarah Elm, Graduate Student, Counseling: School Counseling and Jim Keane, Graduate Student, Communication Studies: Performance Studies. The event’s presentations and additional graduate school application resources are posted on <https://grad.uni.edu/thinking-about-graduate-school>. At the conclusion of TAGS, students were asked to complete an evaluation of the event. Students who completed the evaluation were eligible to be entered into a drawing for 15 door prizes donated by CopyWorks, Mohair Pear, The Shakery, Sub City, Jimmy John’s, Greenhouse Kitchen, Chocolaterie Stam, Here’s What’s Poppin, UNI Department of Residence, UNI Alumni Association, UNI Credit Union and UNI Rod Library. Thank you to all who attended and assisted in the success of TAGS!

Resume Writing Workshop

Susie Schwieger, Director of Graduate Student Life, presented “Resume Writing for Graduate Students” on October 31st in Rod Library ScholarSpace. Ten students attended the workshop. Topics covered included the use of Applicant Tracking Systems by employers in screening resumes and other application materials. Resume formats and section heading options were reviewed. Students analyzed a position description, identifying skills required by the employer and then discussed customizing the resume to that position. The development and effective use of references were addressed. If you would like the handouts from this workshop email Susie at Susan.Schwieger@uni.edu.

Personal Statement Workshop

On October 4th, the Graduate College sponsored “Crafting a Successful Personal Statement” by Dr. Deanne Gute, Writing Coordinator for The Learning Center @ Rod Library, which was a follow-up workshop to Thinking About Graduate School (TAGS) held in September. The personal statement is a component of the graduate school application and provides an opportunity for the applicant to present achievements, qualifications and motivations to attend graduate school to the admissions committee. Dr. Gute presented information on “getting started” strategies, tips on matching strengths with potential graduate programs as well as how to organize and polish the writing of the personal statement. The PowerPoint presentation and the handouts provided may be reviewed at <https://grad.uni.edu/thinking-about-graduate-school> near the bottom of the page. The attendees had nothing but positive feedback about their experiences. One student said, “Gave me confidence to get started!” while another one shared “This was helpful. I feel much better about starting my personal statement!”

THE UNI GRADUATE
COLLEGE PRESENTS...

THE 12TH ANNUAL GRADUATE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2019
11AM - 4PM
MAUCKER UNION



Alumni Profile: Barbara Nebel



Describe your educational background.

I am a proud graduate of Malcolm Price Laboratory School/Northern University High School which I attended from Kindergarten through my senior year of high school. I began my college career at Iowa State University. Once I realized I wanted to pursue my studies toward becoming a Speech/Language Pathologist, I transferred to UNI where I earned both my Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

Describe your professional background and employment experience.

I began my career at Northern Trails Area Education Agency (AEA 2) in Clear Lake, Iowa prior to the consolidation of the AEAs. I worked in the small rural school districts of Britt, Klemme and Kanawha for my first year and Belmond, Corwith-Wesley my second year serving preschool through high school students. My husband was transferred to Des Moines, Iowa in 1987 and I took a position with Central Rehabilitation and Therapy Services. Both companies were owned by a fellow Speech/Language Pathologist, Barbra Vogen. I chose to move out of my pediatrics comfort zone and "try my wings" with adults.

Therapy Services is a contract company working with facilities that do not have their own therapists. Through these contracts I was able to work in nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, home health cares and in/out patient hospital settings. Central Rehabilitation is a Medicare/Medicaid certified Rehabilitation Agency. As part of its mission I have been able to provide therapy out in the community in daycare centers and private homes, as well as at West Des Moines Clinic.

As my career and skills grew with Central Rehabilitation, I was promoted to Speech/Language Supervisor, Rehabilitation Director, Assistant Administrator and eventually was approached by Ms. Vogen regarding an eventual partnership and ownership of both companies upon her retirement. Ms. Vogen guided me in opening and certifying my own Rehabilitation Agency, Children's Therapy Services which, I operated in coordination with Central Rehabilitation and Therapy Services. Owning this agency allowed me to build the skills through practical experience that I would need one day when Ms. Vogen retired. When she retired in December 2012, I became the sole owner of all three companies.

In addition to my career with Central Rehabilitation, I have been a guest lecturer at Des Moines University providing lectures to Neurology students and Physician Assistant students in the areas of normal speech/language development in the pediatric population, speech and language disorders following a neurological incident as well as adult dysphagia. I also work as a speech/language consultant with Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Iowa and South Dakota.

What changes have you seen in the field of speech-language pathology since you began your career?

When I began my career, speech/language pathologist's involvement in pediatric and adult dysphagia was in its infancy. In fact, in my graduate notes when I looked back had only one notation on the subject, "Dysphagia; a swallowing disorder". It has been rewarding to see the growth in that field of study, from being accepted in the radiology suite by radiologists, to educating physicians and nurses in our expertise, to now being the discipline automatically recognized when a patient is having issues in this area whether pediatric or adult. The other big change I have seen is the delivery of service models whether in the schools or in the medical field. When I began practicing hospitals and care centers were owned by small and/or individual companies instead of the large organizations we see today. For example, Central Rehabilitation had contracts with rural hospitals outside the Des Moines Metropolitan area. These rural hospitals are now affiliates of either Mercy or Unity Point. The same transition occurred with care and skilled nursing facilities. They now are mostly owned by national chains that want one provider of rehabilitation services (physical, occupational and speech/language therapies) to serve their patients in their facilities throughout the nation.

What is your role at Central Rehabilitation and what is the mission of your organization? How many individuals are employed by your organization and who are your patients?

I am the sole owner of Central Rehabilitation, Ltd. Our organization's mission is to provide quality rehabilitative services to all ages in the setting that is most appropriate for the patient, whether home, clinic or daycare site. I have roughly 25 employees including office staff, physical and occupational therapists, and speech/language pathologists. We literally see patients from birth to death with all diagnoses. Our biggest populations are in the age ranges birth to age 5 and then 40 years and up.

As a member of the Iowa Speech-Language Hearing Association (ISHA), could you briefly describe your role in the organization? What other professional organizations are you a member of?

I began working with ISHA as the Vice President of Medical, Hospital, Private Practice, partially because I live in the Des Moines Metropolitan area. I also have a keen interest in being able to provide services to patients under a medical model. I became the legislative liaison quite a number of years ago. I always work under the president of ISHA so my role changes with each president depending on their knowledge in the area and time. I read the legislation that is in process in the House and the Senate that pertains to the medical/private practice field and alert ISHA's president and our lobbyist if there is a concern. I speak directly with legislators, attend legislative forums, attend meetings at the Capitol to voice ISHA's concern or support for legislation and have helped with getting legislation written and passed. This is not a one person job! ISHA has established a legislative committee that meets throughout the year and regularly during the legislative session.

I wish all speech/language pathologists in the State of Iowa would join ISHA. In just the past 5 years we have kept professional licensure from being removed from speech/language pathologists in the State, kept other professionals from being licensed that had a scope of practice that encroached on ours and reduced copays our families had from that of a specialist to a copay for their general practice practitioner. This made our services more affordable to patients and families seeking services through their private insurance. This is just in the past 5 years! I am also a member of American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

What do you enjoy most about your career as a speech-language pathologist?

Wow! It is always working with the patients. We all get involved in this field because we want to help people. There is nothing more fulfilling than to see that you have made a difference in someone's life. Second would be working in collaboration with professionals, whether fellow speech/language pathologists whom I learn so much from to physicians, nurses, other rehabilitation specialists, legislators and parents. I believe it is that collaboration that keeps our spark to learn alive and well!

What advice do you have for current UNI speech-language pathology students?

Do not be afraid to push yourself in accepting an opportunity that is outside of your comfort zone. I would suggest you have been doing this ever since you became a student in the Communication Disorders program. You never know where it may lead you. Never stop having the thirst to learn in whatever endeavors you decide to accept. Find what you love and build on it, but don't let it limit you. Build networking with fellow SLPs and other professionals. You NEVER know where those relationships may take you!

Student Profile: Ismael Quinones



Education: MA Communication Studies: General Communication, Anticipated Graduation May 2019
BA Communication Studies from University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa, TX in 2016

What motivated you to attend UNI for your graduate education?

UNI has a great graduate program in Communication Studies. Although UNI has many strengths, here are the main ones I was attracted to:

- a) The Communication Studies program allows you to be flexible in your research interests. If I am being honest, I had no idea what were my research interests when I applied to graduate school. I thought I wanted to be a quantitative researcher, but after taking classes in rhetoric, I found it to be more conducive to satisfy my curiosity. I have taken classes in qualitative methods, performance methods, quantitative methods, historical methods, and rhetorical methods, and I am confident that I have made the right choice. I don't think that other programs would have given me the possibility to explore my research interests as broadly as UNI has.
- b) The Communication Studies program trusts its Master's students to teach a section in Oral Communication. Every time I tell friends that I teach a college class, they are impressed. Most programs only let doctorate students teach,

but UNI trusts its masters' students to be in charge of a classroom. On top of that, we get great support from the department and specifically Dr. Ryan McGeough, who is in charge of overseeing the Oral Communication sections. He has done a lot of work to ensure that we are ready to teach from day one.

c) The Communication Studies program does not have a doctorate program. This might seem counterintuitive, but this means that master students get more attention from faculty. They are happy to work with you, discuss ideas with you, guide you, help you, criticize you, and help you become a better writer all the time.

d) My undergraduate advisor said that the people she knew from the department were lovely, and she was not wrong.

Describe your previous work experience.

I worked as a tennis coach for almost two years while I was a student-athlete in college in Texas. I also reported for the local school newspaper and have done an internship at the local CBS TV news station. I also had an internship with my local congressional representative in Texas.

What are your responsibilities as a Graduate Assistant?

This semester, I am in charge of teaching two sections of Oral Communication. Even though the department has done an amazing job in providing us with lesson plans and assignments for the class, we still have to prepare the lessons, deliver them, assign speeches, and grade them. I love teaching and seeing students grow even if it has to be at 8:00 AM!

What are your research interests?

I study rhetoric. Aristotle defines the role of the rhetorician somewhere along the lines of having the ability to seek, in every given moment, all the available means of persuasion. I started my studies in January 2016, just months after the Presidential election. Not knowing what I wanted to study, I just wanted to answer one question: Why Trump? I found rhetoric to be the best tool to answer this question, which has led me to write a couple of essays that I have presented at conferences, and ultimately my thesis.

I first wrote a paper about Trump's Presidential Announcement. I wanted to see what it was about the speech that made it so effective in starting his Presidential campaign. In it, I found calls for restoring the American Dream, the idea that if you try hard enough, you can become rich in America. I found an explanation as to why Trump gained support from a broader Republican coalition that was not restricted to his base. This did not address, however, the uglier sides of Trump's rhetoric, the nativist, xenophobic, sexist, etc. This led me to start studying the Alt-Right, a white nationalist movement who was in ardent support of Trump during the 2016 Presidential campaign. I wrote a couple of essays about them, with one of them turning into my thesis.

My thesis is entitled "From Meme to Memograph: The Curious Case of Pepe the Frog and White Nationalism." It is about memes. I am studying Pepe the Frog, a meme that has been used by a wide variety of groups ranging from self-declared racists, like former KKK Grand Wizard David Duke, and innocuous celebrities, like Katy Perry. Even Donald Trump himself retweeted a picture of Pepe that looked like him in his Twitter account. Focusing on memes has allowed me to make broader arguments about how arguments circulate in the age of the Internet and social media, and how these digital structures have been conducive to social movements like the Trumpian one that we are experiencing today.

What opportunities have you had to present your work at professional conferences?

My first presentation was at UNI's Ethics and Social Responsibility Conference in early 2017. I discussed the ethical implications of using the American Dream for the benefit of one's own election. I then presented three different papers at the regional communication conference, Central States Communication Association Annual Conference, in 2018. I presented my paper about Trump and the American Dream, how Hamilton the musical uses the American Dream to persuade people from different parts in the political spectrum, and how the Alt-Right constructed its identity in self-published journal "academic" articles. The Hamilton paper won the "Best Debut Paper by a Graduate Student." Later in 2018, I flew to College Station, Texas to give a talk at the conference on Rhetoric and New Fascism hosted by Texas A&M. I talked about the role of the Mexican party, PRI, who held power from the early 1930's to 2000, in building what Vargas Llosa called a "perfect dictatorship." Vargas Llosa's, a Peruvian and Nobel prize winner, analysis of the Mexico of that era can help us better understand the moment in which the United States currently is going through. This presentation is in the works of becoming a book chapter for a book on rhetoric and the new fascism in contract with Texas A&M University Press.

What are your professional and career goals following your graduation from UNI?

Since UNI does not offer a doctorate program in rhetoric, I plan to pursue a PhD at a different institution. I will be applying to Penn State, Maryland, Texas A&M, and University of Texas at Austin to further my education in rhetoric. I want to enter academia with the goal of becoming a writer. I would like to be a public speaker and writer who is immersed in the conversations that rhetoricians have in every journal volume.

What are your leisure time interests?

I play tennis! I have played tennis since I was six years old and also played it in college. I have recently started playing trivia with a group of graduate school friends and we are still undefeated. Granted, we have only played three times. I also golfed for the first time this fall and I might start playing more often. Since I graduate in December, I will have a free semester before pursuing my PhD. I plan to learn how to play the guitar during that time, but I am not counting on being good at it.

Faculty Profile: Dr. Theresa Spradling



Describe your educational background.

I earned a BS in Biology with a Chemistry minor from Emporia State University in Emporia, Kansas in 1984. I got involved in an undergraduate research project with my genetics professor there and decided to go on for a little more training in biology by earning my MS degree in Biology from the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. From there, I decided that I really wanted to keep going in biology because I loved the research aspect of biology. I pursued a PhD at Louisiana State University because a professor was

researching host-parasite co-evolution and I found it fascinating. I earned my PhD, from this institution in 1997.

Describe your employment experience.

After I finished my PhD, I taught biology for a year at University of Southwestern Louisiana (now called University of Louisiana Lafayette).

When did you begin your career at UNI and in what role?

I came to UNI in 1998 with my husband, Jim Demastes. He was hired as a faculty member in the Department of Biology and I was hired shortly after as an adjunct instructor. In 2001, I was hired by the Department of Biology as an assistant professor. I was promoted to professor in 2012. This fall, I was named the Interim Head of the Department of Biology.

What graduate and undergraduate courses do you teach?

Most of my teaching has been in the biology undergraduate program. I teach Genetics, which is a sophomore-level lecture and lab class, nearly every semester. In fact, this is my 35th semester teaching that class. Genetics is a fast-paced field, so the material has really changed a lot over the years! There is always something new and interesting happening in that field, so I'm always excited to teach that class.

What do you enjoy most about teaching at UNI?

I'm continually amazed at the students who come through our program. I've had the chance to meet so many bright, interesting people with such great plans for the future and such passion for making a difference in this world!

What are your research interests?

I have used genetics to address a variety of evolutionary questions. Most recently, my colleague Jim Demastes and I have been working on understanding how the genetics of organisms will change when they expand into new territory. We are studying a species of louse that lives on pocket gophers (subterranean rodents). The louse species that we are studying has recently invaded a new host type and is in the process of expanding its range into new territory. In fact, we have been tracking this population advance for 25 years now! We have observed a loss of genetic diversity in these lice in their new territory, which is likely due to the fact that only a few individuals have made it into the new territory, with the population in the new area today being made up of descendants of those few initial colonists. This same scenario likely plays out in other species when they expand their range into new territory, which is a process we expect to happen for many species as climate change progresses. We have also documented a striped distribution of genetic diversity in the lice in the new area, confirming the predictions of model-based analyses of population expansion. This finding will help biologists understand patterns of genetic diversity in a variety of other organisms that are suspected to have expanded their distribution into new territory.

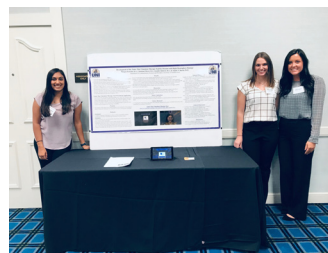
What journals has your research been published in?

Journal of Parasitology, *PLoS One*, *Molecular Ecology*, *Science*, and *Evolution* are a few of my favorites.

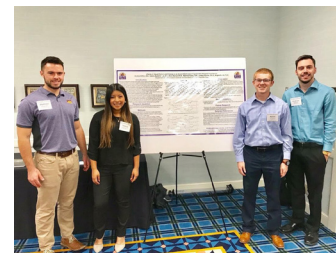
What types of activities do you enjoy during your leisure time?

Jim and I have two boys, Connor (18) and Alex (12). I really enjoy spending time with those guys! We all enjoy camping and traveling. Often, we will make RAGBRAI our camping trip.

Iowa Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ISHA) Convention



Pictured left to right: Chandani Morar, Jenny Roberts, & Morgan Krischel



Pictured left to right: Matt Easley, Valeria Garces, Kevin Bernard, & Andrew Arthur

The Iowa Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ISHA) Convention was held on October 25th and 26th in Iowa City. ISHA informs and connects current and future speech-language pathologists and audiologists through education, advocacy and the promotion of professional integrity. The ISHA Convention is a great opportunity to join with other professionals in learning new skills and techniques while earning continuing education credits that are required by the state of Iowa. There were seven UNI Speech-Language Pathology graduate students who had the opportunity to present their research projects at the 2018 ISHA Convention and were able to network with current professionals and future professionals, engage in interactive learning sessions and experience the latest research in the field.

Iowa School Counselor Association (ISCA) Conference



On November 4-6th the Iowa School Counselor Association (ISCA) held their annual conference, "Go The Distance: Stepping Into The Future" at Prairie Meadows Hotel & Conference Center in Altoona, Iowa. Students and professionals gathered to hear from two keynote speakers. The first keynote speaker was Dr. Joyce V. Brown who is a recognized school counseling leader, serving as a teacher, counselor and district director of School Counseling within Chicago Public Schools (CPS), the nation's third largest school district. The second keynote speaker was Ryan Nesbit, Co-Chair for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Iowa Chapter who examined suicide prevention options, prevention goals, and overcommitted students. Attendees were given the choice of 51 breakout sessions to attend and networked with their colleagues. Over 40 UNI graduate students, alumni, and faculty attended and gained valuable professional development information. Conference information can be reviewed at <http://www.iowaschoolcounselors.org/Conference2017>.

Challenge Yourself in Spring Semester!

The Graduate College is challenging all graduate students to try something new in the Spring Semester! As we all know, it is easy to fall into a rut after Winter Break and the holiday season. It is important to explore the opportunities that the university and community provides! Here are some ideas to get you started on your exploration of new opportunities:

- [Join a Student Organization!](#)
- [Volunteer!](#)
- [Attend a Gallagher-Bluedorn Event!](#)

Students receive two free tickets per semester.

- Explore new places on campus!
 - [UNI Botanical Center and Greenhouse](#)
 - [Visit the UNI Museum](#)
- Try a new workout class!
 - [UNI Fit Class Pass](#)
- Create a “for fun” reading list!
 - [Cedar Falls Public Library](#)
 - [Rod Library](#)
 - [Waterloo Public Library](#)
- Go see a new flick!
 - [College Square Movie Theatre in Cedar Falls](#)
 - [Crossroads Cinema in Waterloo](#)
- Explore the community!
 - Attend a hockey game with the [Waterloo Black Hawks](#)
 - [Cedar Falls Community Main Street](#)
 - [Main Street Waterloo](#)
 - [John Deere Tractor and Engine Museum](#)
 - [Grout Museum of History & Science](#)
 - [Waterloo Center for the Arts](#)
 - [The Hearst Center](#)
 - [Young Arena](#)
- Attend the [12th Annual Graduate Student Symposium](#) on April 3, 2019!



The Graduate College Welcomes Kathryn Wohlpert, Thesis and Dissertation Reviewer and Digital Publications Coordinator!



Describe your educational background.

I attended Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida where I received my Bachelor of Arts in Multimedia Journalism. I then moved to Iowa and received my Master of Arts from the University of Northern Iowa in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing.

Describe your professional background.

During my undergraduate career I contributed to several local papers and wrote on topics including crime beat and local culture pieces. These included the *Boca Raton Tribune*, *Sun Sentinel* and *FAU University Press*. I was also a Radio News Reporter and Editor for the *South Florida Journal*. After receiving my master's degree I was employed at John Deere in Waterloo, Iowa as the Operations Administrative Assistant.

What are your research interests?

I am interested in young adult literature and the portrayals of mental illness in young adult literature. I am also interested in studying the lines between journalistic truth and non-fiction. My thesis was a young adult memoir on the effects of university disciplinarys on reporting of sexual assault.

What type of work do you enjoy? What kind of writing do you do?

I am a creative writer. I have recently been researching strange ideas and incorporating them into a memoir. For example, I recently looked at natural disasters and how that may look from the eyes of someone who is experiencing the disaster. I also enjoy manipulating factual work into creative writing.

Where have you presented your work?

I have most recently presented my work at the UNI Graduate Student Symposium in 2017. I have also presented at the Milton Conference at the University of South Dakota in 2016 and the Looking Glass Rock Writers' Conference at Brevard College in 2017.

What is your role as the Thesis and Dissertation Reviewer and Digital Publications Coordinator?

As the Thesis and Dissertation Reviewer I ensure the standards that are set forth by the Graduate College are upheld. I also serve as a resource for graduate students who are writing their thesis or dissertation.

As the Digital Publications Coordinator I am looking into ways the Graduate College can improve the communication with faculty, students and staff at UNI. Because this is a new role, the duties are still being determined.

What are you most excited about your new position?

Overall I am most excited to be working with graduate students and making this position a supportive role and resource for graduate students.

What advice do you have for current graduate students who are pursuing a thesis or dissertation?

I would advise students to begin their research early, form a good research committee, reach out to the Graduate College for assistance, and to utilize resources on campus such as the Rod Library. I also encourage graduate students to be involved on campus.

What do you enjoy doing in your leisure time?

I enjoy spending time with my dog and taking her on walks. I also enjoy writing in my leisure time.

Graduate Program Survey for December 2018 Graduates

In early December, the Graduate Program Survey will be sent to December 2018 graduates from Dr. Jennifer J. Waldron, the Dean of the Graduate College. The purpose of the survey is to gain feedback from graduates on their UNI graduate education experiences as well as their future plans. When you receive the brief survey please take a couple minutes to complete it. Your responses are very much appreciated by the Graduate College!

The Graduate Council is the principal decision-making body of the Graduate Faculty. The Council acts on behalf of the Graduate Faculty on all graduate education policy and curricular matters. Regular meetings of the Graduate Council are held in Lang 115. These meeting are open to the university community. The Council consists of 16 faculty and staff members and two graduate student representatives. Thank you to Shehreen Iqtadar and Alivia Zubrod for representing UNI's doctoral and master students!



Alivia Zubrod
Master Student Representative
Psychology: Social Psychology



Shehreen Iqtadar
Doctoral Student Representative
Curriculum and Instruction

Graduate Council Meeting Dates:

December 13, 2018	February 28, 2019
January 24, 2019	March 28, 2019
April 25, 2019	



Graduating in December 2018? Do not forget to join the UNI Alumni Association! The UNI Alumni Association aims to facilitate communication and outreach activities with alumni, students and friends of UNI. Their vision is to strengthen relationships with alumni, students and the university through lifelong connections. Joining the UNI Alumni Association is a great way to stay connected to the Panther community by receiving event invitations and their magazine. There are seven UNI Alumni Clubs around the United States including Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Corridor, Central Iowa, Chicago, Denver, Kansas City, Omaha-Council Bluffs and the Twin Cities. For more information about the clubs go to <https://unialum.org/alumni-clubs>. There are NO FEES associated with becoming a member of the UNI Alumni Association! Submit your information at <https://unialum.org/update-alumni-contact-information>.

UNI Grad Chat

Connect with your fellow graduate students and stay up to date with upcoming events!

- Interesting Readings
- Campus Events
- Cedar Valley Events
- Positive News Articles
- Favorite Books, Music & Podcasts

Request to join UNI Grad Chat on Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/unigradchat/

Questions? Contact gradlife@uni.edu



SAVE THE DATE

1 3 0 19
WEDNESDAY

NOON - 1:00

LIB 287

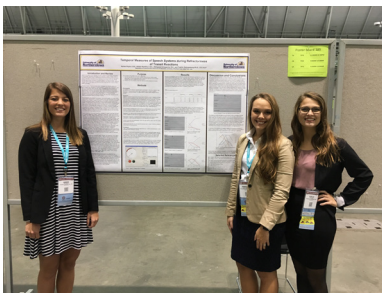
GRADUATE COLLEGE TOWN HALL

Hosted by your NISG Graduate College Senator and NISG Graduate Student Life Director

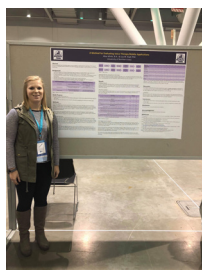
Save the Date for the Graduate College Town Hall, January 30, 2019, Noon - 1:00 PM in LIB 287. Drop in and share your suggestions and ideas with your NISG Graduate College Senator and NISG Graduate Student Life Director.

2018 American Speech-Language and Hearing (ASHA) Convention

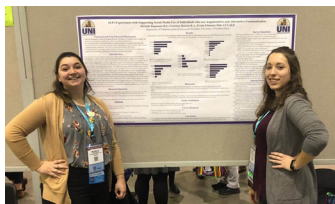
The 2018 American Speech-Language and Hearing (ASHA) Convention in Boston, Massachusetts had an overall conference attendance of approximately 15,500 Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists from around the country. The ASHA convention is the premier annual professional education event for speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and speech, language and hearing scientists. There were 18 Speech-Language Pathology graduate students from UNI who presented research projects. In order for graduate students to be selected to present their research at ASHA, they must create a proposal and submit it to the board for review. Students had the opportunity to attend educational sessions, meet with advisors of PhD programs from around the country, network with vendors for potential job opportunities and learn about current research.



Pictured left to right: Amber Ramthun, Abbi Schupnitz, & Karlee Peyton



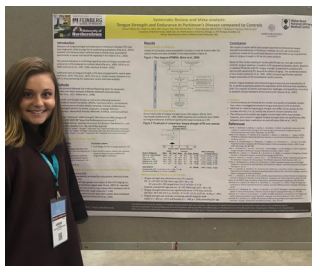
Pictured above: Alisa White



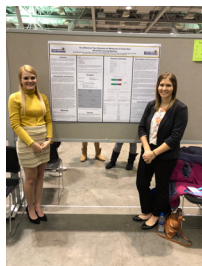
Pictured left to right: Michelle Bognanno & Courtney Hansen



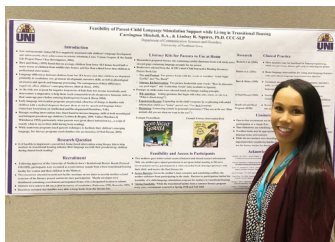
Pictured left to right: Morgan Krischel, Jennifer Roberts, & Chandani Morar



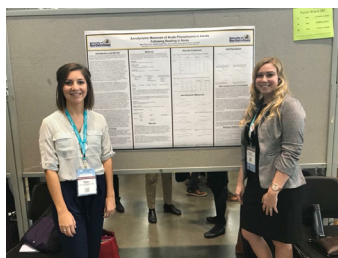
Pictured above: Hannah Tiffany



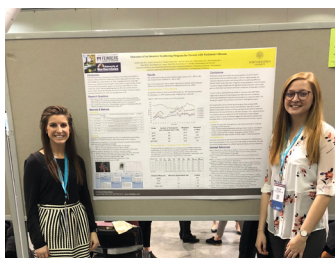
Pictured left to right: Samantha Topp & Kelly Heckstein



Pictured above: Carrington Mitchell



Pictured left to right: Marci Paca & Natalie Taylor



Pictured left to right: Sarah Crimmins & Jocelyn Jenks
Not pictured: Morgan Powers

Arctic Frontiers Of SusTainability: Resources, Societies, Environments and Development in the Changing North

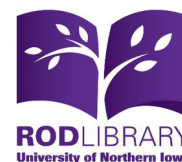
Written by: Siobhan McTiernan, Graduate Student, Department of Geography



The National Science Foundation Arctic-FROST (Arctic Frontiers Of SusTainability: Resources, Societies, Environments and Development in the Changing North) annual networking meeting and early career scholars workshop took place in beautiful Juneau, Alaska from September 18-22, 2018. This meeting aimed to co-construct collaboration among regional and local governments, indigenous organizations, and researchers in sustainable development throughout the Arctic. It was hosted by several universities including the University of Northern Iowa and the University of Alaska, Southeast. One of the Arctic-FROST Principal Investigators is UNI's very own, Dr. Andrey Petrov, an internationally renowned social scientist who bases himself in the Department of Geography as a professor and graduate student mentor for the ArcticCenter as a researcher and president of several Arctic Committees.

As a graduate student, I was generously granted the opportunity by Dr. Petrov to participate in the Arctic-FROST meeting this fall. In preparation for the conference, I was tasked to develop the 50 page detailed and aesthetically designed program. The program included the updates of FROST's 2017 research, meeting information, conference venues and programs for the workshops as well as the participant biographies, abstracts and contact information. My versatile responsibilities at the meeting had me working mainly as the acting scribe and photographer.

The organization by UNI's Department of Geography secretary and financial wizard, Ann Crawford, enabled a smoothly flowing conference! Transportation to some of the main attractions Juneau had to offer was included. Some of the main highlights included touring the Alaska Heritage Institute hosted by Dr. Whorl, president of SEALASKA, the Mendenhall Glacier with guest speakers from the US Forest Service about ecological and business development, Alaskan Brewery for presentations on technical and managerial innovations of sustainability, research presentations and an open forum for Alaskan residents regarding Arctic-FROST objectives at the University of Alaska, and a dinner reception at the Governor's Mansion. It truly was an amazing opportunity to participate in this collaboration of young scientists across many countries and disciplines—all working on the common theme of what we love, the Arctic.



ROD LIBRARY
University of Northern Iowa

As you wrap up your work this fall and begin preparing for a successful spring semester, here are a few reminders of Rod Library's resources for Graduate Students. We are committed to your success, so let us help! Wherever you are in the research process - refining a topic, preparing a literature review, selecting and navigating databases, accessing information for free, managing citations, etc. - we are here for you!

- Find the librarian that specializes in research and information in your academic program: <https://library.uni.edu/research/liaison-librarians-collection-strategists>

- Schedule a research consultation where we'll help you no matter where you are in your research process: <https://uni.libcal.com/appointments/librarians>

- Graduate Student Guide, including links to all of the services and resources you might need: <https://guides.lib.uni.edu/grad>

See you in the spring!

Student and Alumni Accolades

Women's and Gender Studies Program

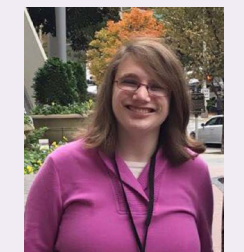
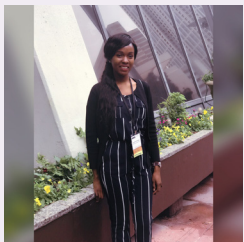


Elena Golosova's (pictured left) native home is Saint Petersburg in the Russian Federation. She is a first year student in the Women's & Gender Studies Program. This academic year she is a graduate assistant in both the Center for Violence Prevention and in the Department of Geography. Through the Department of Geography she presented at the West Lakes Division of the Association of American Geographers (WLDAAG) Conference held in La Crosse, Wisconsin, on November 1-3, 2018. Her presentation was entitled "Research Cooperation and Priorities in the

Arctic: A Social Sciences View," "dedicated to the foundation and function of the International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA)." IASSA conducts Arctic research from the perspective of social sciences. She also participated in the Geography Bowl against numerous other students and came in 3rd place!



Rawan AbuMahady (pictured top left), Joyceline Amoako (pictured middle left), and Ashley Meyers (pictured bottom left), students in the Women's & Gender Studies Program, attended the annual National Women's Studies Association Conference in Atlanta, GA on November 8-11, 2018. Rawan shared that the main reason she attended was because there were many sessions about Palestinian feminism which is the focus of her thesis. The sessions she attended were "Repression, Resistance and Solidarity: Black Panthers to Black Lives Matter," "Palestine to Standing Rock, Teaching Gender and Sexual Justice: Arab and Muslim Communities Institute," "Global 1968: A World on Fire, Remembering 1968 and Looking to the Future," "Queer Utopias: From Palestine to Rural America" where Mikki Stelder from the University of Amsterdam presented an abstract on "Anticolonial-Queer Space and Making Practices at Queer Visions at the World Social Forum: Free Palestine" and finally, "What Does Justice for/in Palestine Look Like? A Praxis of Transnational Solidarity." The conference helped Rawan to develop a better understanding of the struggles and challenges facing women of color, a group she belongs to. Joycelin said that the conference provided good exposure as it led the field of women's studies in educational and social transformation.



The sessions she attended mainly focused on Black Feminism, Scholarship, Activism, and Community Building and she was enlightened on how to apply women's studies on a broader spectrum of community building and activism. The sessions she attended were "How to Cultivate

Students Leaders as Radical Justice-Oriented Visionaries, Creators and Makers," "Are We Bad Feminists?: Who Do Women's Centers Serve and How?," "Imagining Africa's Futures: Knowledge, Power, Technology, and the Body," "Activism, Envisioning Otherwise: The Cultural Work of Black Feminist Futurities," "Black Women as Visionary Leaders," "Plenary: Global 1968: A World on Fire, Remembering 1968 and Looking to the Future," "Imaginative Praxis in Classrooms and Collectives," "When and Where We Gather: The (Un)Certain Future of Womanism," "MA/HD Reception," "Ecofeminism in the Classroom: Imagining Diverse and Sustainable Social and Environmental Futures," and "Girl Leaders: Scholarship, Activism, and Community Building." Given Ashley's research interests in trans studies she attended sessions within the (inter)discipline with titled like: "(Il)legible Bodies: Transitions to Fuller Trans Politic" and "Thinking Trans*: Emergent Trans* Epistemologies in the Academy and Educational Space." Other sessions she attended were "Female Masculinities and Revolutionary Potentials: A Conversation with Jack Halberstam at the 20-Year Anniversary of 'Female Masculinity,'" "Are We Bad Feminists?: Who Do Women Centers Serve and How?," "Managing Differences: Protecting Trans and Gender Non-Conforming Faculty in the Age of Diversity, Multiculturalism, and the Alt-Right," "Imagining Spaces of Impossible Trans Political and Cultural Resistance," Keynote Conversation: Elizabeth Alexander and Alondra Nelson, Trans*/Queer Latin American Utopias the Rehearing of Revolutionary Futures," "Plenary- Global 1968: A World on Fire, Remembering 1968 and Looking to the Future," "#MeToo, #TimesUp: Imagining a World Free of Sexual Violence" and Keynote Conversation: Alice Walker and Beverly Guy-Sheftall.

Department of Educational Leadership & Postsecondary Education



Pujaningsih Pujaningsih, an Ed.D. student in the Educational Leadership/Special Education Intensive Study Area, presented her paper entitled "First Attempt of Collaborative Course in Teacher Preparation Program to Support Inclusive Education," at the 25th Annual American Association for Teaching and Curriculum on October 4-6 in Dallas, Texas. She was also involved as a volunteer (pictured left) during the conference to support the registration desk. She attended

some insightful sessions about writing and research in teacher education. The main focus of this conference was to promote scholarly study on teaching and curriculum. Award winners for dissertations and articles in teaching and curriculum studies were selected.



Pujaningsih also attended the 2018 Association for Educational Communications & Technology (AECT) International Convention held on October 23-27 in Kansas City. She was involved as a presenter, volunteer, and workshop participant. She presented a paper entitled "The Design of Collaborative Course and Pre-Service Teachers' Efficacy in Teaching in

Inclusive Classroom." Also she participated in three different workshops: "Evaluation and Re-Design Coursework for Educational Transformation," "Q Methodology Primer: A Mixed Methods Approach to Research," and "Mixed Methods Research Techniques: A Step By Step Approach for Instructional Design." According to Pujaningsih, "As a graduate student who will develop higher education courses, I gained so much knowledge and skills not only to develop a better course but also conduct mixed method study for my current research and future career."

Matt Townsley, an Ed.D. student in the Educational Leadership Intensive Study Area, will be presenting at the National Conference on Education (AASA) in February 2019 in Los Angeles, CA. The presentation is entitled, "Mastery-Minded Grading in Secondary Schools."

Department of Psychology

Kristin Broussard, M.A. Psychology 2015 and current Ph.D. candidate at St. Louis University (SLU), had her research featured in national publications recently. Her research on transgender issues at SLU was featured by *Psychology Today* (https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/inclusive-insight/201809/what-precisely-do-transgender-people-threaten?fbclid=IwAR3SdEGN_jq25y3CL0I65d0M82OpSYgiZC2bjq-BY3qwRIPtn7BwgOGPnBU) and her research (conducted at UNI and co-authored with Dr. Helen Harton) was featured in a radio segment on Sirius radio (<https://www.byradio.org/show/fbb6e706-8810-488e-b8d2-644beb04f938/the-lisa-valentine-clark-show>).

Department of Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs



Students from the Postsecondary Education: Student Affairs program (pictured left) attended the NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education) Region IV-E Conference on November 11 - 13, 2018 in Milwaukee, WI. Olivia Ballhagen, Victoria Bertelsen, Taberie Halling, Kristin Peiffer, Jay Ramones, Hannah Shuler, and Maddy Spettel presented educational sessions at the conference.

What is the UNI Grad Student News?

UNI Grad Student News is a quarterly newsletter featuring news and updates concerning graduate education at the University of Northern Iowa. Each issue features profile stories on graduate students, faculty, staff, and notable alumni. UNI Grad Student News is unique in that it publishes news submitted directly from graduate students and faculty.

How and What Can I Submit as News?

Complete Submission Form at <https://grad.uni.edu/online-submission-form>. Submissions can include information about recent conferences you have attended, academic accomplishments, or upcoming departmental events.

We Welcome Your News!

Submission Deadlines for 2018-2019 Issues:

January 24, 2019 for February Issue

April 11, 2019 for May Issue

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Who Receives the Newsletter?

All graduate students, faculty, and staff receive the newsletter via email. You can always view previous and current issues of *UNI Grad Student News* at <https://www.grad.uni.edu/uni-grad-student-news>.

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